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Letter dated 24 January 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 23 January 2001 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. Appended to the Minister's letter are a number of tables showing violations of Iraq's international boundaries committed by United States and British warplanes flying across the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM).

The Minister urges you to secure the necessary technical systems to enable UNIKOM to perform its functions in the manner required by its mandate under the relevant Security Council resolutions and to track and identify each violation and encroachment. These violations constitute wanton aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territory, and they are incompatible with the relevant Security Council resolutions, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Al-Humaimidi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 24 January 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter dated 25 December 2000 addressed to you (S/2000/1242, annex), I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes have committed 7,824 violations of Iraq's international boundaries by way of the demilitarized zone monitored by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM). As shown in the tables appended to this letter, the relevant Iraqi authorities have established the facts set forth hereunder with regard to the violations committed in the period from 17 December 1998 to 31 December 2000.

1. Armed and hostile aerial activity by the United States and the United Kingdom, violating our international boundaries from the demilitarized zone, comprised 7,824 sorties over Iraq's southern governorates (Basrah, Amarah, Nasiriyah, Diwaniyah, Samawah, Najaf and Wasit).

2. Our technical systems identified the aircraft violating Iraq's airspace on an almost daily basis as American F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and F-18s and British Tornadoes.

3. All of the armed and hostile sorties that violated Iraq's airspace from the demilitarized zone were supported by AWACS aircraft operating inside Saudi Arabian airspace and E-2C aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace.

4. A total of 12 remotely piloted aircraft violated Iraq's airspace from Kuwait by way of the demilitarized zone.

5. On 17, 18, 19 and 20 December 2000, United States and British forces launched 456 cruise missiles against Iraqi territory across the demilitarized zone.

All of the violations in question were committed from the area in which UNIKOM is stationed. UNIKOM has the responsibility of monitoring such hostile military operations and reporting them immediately or, at the very least, including information in their regard in the periodic reports that it submits to you and thence to the Security Council for purposes of documentation. The members of the Council and the international community in general may thus be informed of such violations and military encroachments committed by the United States and the United Kingdom and act to take appropriate measures to halt them.

The statements of UNIKOM to the effect that it is unable to monitor or identify these aircraft cannot be maintained in the light of the scientific and technological capabilities available, and UNIKOM is in a position to obtain and utilize them to fulfil the requirements of its mandate by establishing the identity and country of the warplanes that are violating Iraq's airspace.

I accordingly urge you to secure the systems that will allow UNIKOM to perform its functions in the manner required by its mandate under the relevant Security Council resolutions by identifying each violation and encroachment. These

violations constitute wanton aggression against Iraq and against its people, its sovereignty and its territory, and they are incompatible with the relevant Security Council resolutions, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

Appendix

Hostile aerial activity violating Iraq's international boundaries from Kuwait across the demilitarized zone, 17-31 December 1998

Date	Area	Time	Type	Sorties	Altitude (metres)	Speed (km/h)	Areas overflown
17-31 December 1998	Demilitarized zone, from the direction of Kuwait	2405-2350	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado	129	7,000-9,000	720-780	Baghdad, Salah al-Din, Ta'mim, Wasit, Muthanna, Nasiriyah, Amarah

Total sorties: 129

Hostile aerial activity violating Iraq's international boundaries from Kuwait by way of the demilitarized zone, 1999

No.	Month	Area	Time	Type	Sorties	Altitude (metres)	Speed (km/h)	Areas overflown
1	January	Demilitarized zone, from the direction of Kuwait	0630-1220	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado	456	9,000-11,000	720-780	Umm Qasr, Artawi, Basrah, Nasiriyah, Jalibah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Samawah, Busayyah
2	February	"	0700-1500	"	408	10,000-12,000	"	Jalibah, Artawi, Umm Qasr, Qurnah, Shatrah, Rifa'i, Diwaniyah, Samawah
3	March	"	1100-1305	"	276	9,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Samawah, Shatrah, Artawi, Ali al-Gharbi, Diwaniyah, Qurnah, Nasiriyah
4	April	"	0705-1010	"	243	10,000-12,000	"	Basrah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Hayy, Diwaniyah, Busayyah, Samawah, Artawi
5	May	"	1000-1200	"	490	9,000-12,000	"	Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Busayyah, Jalibah, Ali al-Gharbi, Artawi
6	June	"	0740-1350	"	778	10,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Basrah, Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Jalibah
7	July	"	0900-1420	"	311	10,000-12,000	"	Basrah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Rifa'i, Jalibah, Busayyah
8	August	"	0820-1530	"	290	10,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Artawi, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shatrah, Basrah, Ali al-Gharbi
9	September	"	1010-1200	"	268	10,000-12,000	"	Artawi, Jalibah, Basrah, Samawah, Ali al-Gharbi, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Nasiriyah, Busayyah
10	October	"	0805-1310	"	358	10,000-12,000	"	Qurnah, Basrah, Artawi, Shatrah, Diwaniyah, Samawah, Busayyah
11	November	"	0735-1020	"	401	9,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Basrah, Diwaniyah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Busayyah, Samawah, Jalibah
12	December	"	1100-1405	"	472	9,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Basrah, Nasiriyah, Diwaniyah, Amarah, Samawah, Jalibah, Shatrah, Ali al-Gharbi, Busayyah

Total sorties: 4,751

Hostile aerial activity violating Iraq's international boundaries from Kuwait by way of the demilitarized zone, 2000

No.	Month	Area	Time	Type	Sorties	Altitude (metres)	Speed (km/h)	Areas overflown
1	January	Demilitarized zone, from the direction of Kuwait	1100-1600	F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado	420	9,000-11,000	720-780	Artawi, Nasiriyah, Jalibah, Amarah, Diwaniyah, Samawah, Busayyah, Shatrah, Rifa'i
2	February	"	0905-1350	"	230	10,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Basrah, Amarah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Artawi, Busayyah, Rifa'i, Jalibah
3	March	"	0735-1800	"	248	10,000-12,000	"	Basrah, Amarah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Jalibah, Busayyah, Samawah, Rifa'i
4	April	"	0630-1600	"	201	10,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Basrah, Jalibah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Rifa'i, Amarah, Busayyah, Samawah
5	May	"	0845-1335	"	194	10,000-12,000	"	Basrah, Nasiriyah, Umm Qasr, Amarah, Busayyah, Jalibah, Rifa'i, Diwaniyah
6	June	"	0700-1440	"	132	10,000-11,000	"	Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Amarah, Jalibah, Artawi, Busayyah
7	July	"	0705-1850	"	214	10,000-12,000	"	Artawi, Busayyah, Jalibah, Diwaniyah, Amarah, Shatrah, Ali al Gharbi, Samawah
8	August	"	0710-1600	"	200	10,000-12,000	"	Jalibah, Artawi, Qurnah, Shatrah, Nasiriyah, Busayyah, Diwaniyah, Samawah, Umm Qasr
9	September	"	0700-1900	"	248	10,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Qurnah, Basrah, Artawi, Diwaniyah, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Qurnah
10	October	"	0822-1835	"	340	9,000-12,000	"	Busayyah, Diwaniyah, Najaf South, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Shatrah, Diwaniyah, Samawah
11	November	"	0900-1430	"	232	10,000-12,000	"	Basrah, Umm Qasr, Jalibah, Rifa'i, Shatrah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Qurnah, Busayyah
12	December	"	0800-1435	"	285	10,000-12,000	"	Umm Qasr, Artawi, Basrah, Jalibah, Bussayah, Diwaniyah, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Shatrah

Total sorties: 2,944

Violations from the demilitarized zone of remotely piloted aircraft coming from the direction of Kuwait, 1999-2000

No.	Date	Time	Number	Speed (km/h)	Altitude (metres)	From	Areas overflown
1	25 October 1999	1935-0345	1	240	7,000	Kuwait	Busayyah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Rifa'i, Ali al-Gharbi, Hayy, Diwaniyah, Samawah
2	4 November 1999	1015-1045	1	480	9,000	"	Busayyah
3	7 January 2000	0847-1005	1	360	8,000	"	Busayyah
4	21 January 2000	2025-2100	1	240	7,000	"	Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Rifa'i
5	20 June 2000	0222-0325	1	360	7,000	"	Busayyah, Jalibah
6	20 June 2000	0222-0325	1	360	8,000	"	Busayyah, Jalibah
7	18 December 2000	0920-1102	1	240	7,000	"	Umm Qasr, Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah
8	19 December 2000	1041-1132	1	240	7,000	"	Umm Qasr
9	21 December 2000	1022-1120	1	180	8,000	"	Umm Qasr Basrah
10	21 December 2000	1134-1419	1	240	7,000	"	Umm Qasr, Basrah
11	31 December 2000	1248-1505	1	240	7,000	"	Basrah
12	31 December 2000	1632-1730	1	240	7,000	"	Basrah

Total sorties: 12